


1 Corinthians 3: 18 – 4:21

**Life on the Plateau!**




4 Spiritual Plateaus

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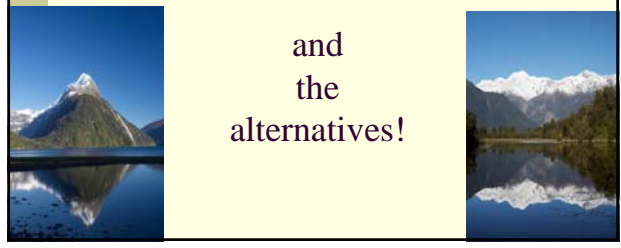
- We've learned enough – 3: 18-23
- We're good enough – 4: 1-5
- We're comfortable where we are – 4: 8-13
- We have all the right words! – 4: 18-20

Complacency!

A rotten destination  
for a climbing trip!

and  
the  
alternatives!



**1. KNOW-IT-ALL Plateau – 3: 18-23**

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- Become a “fool” in order to become wise!
- i.e. get over the idea you know it all.
- Get into a mindset of lifelong learning!

**2. GOOD-ENOUGH Plateau – 4: 1-5**

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- 3 ways of measuring ourselves
  - : how high do we set the bar??



## 2. GOOD-ENOUGH Plateau – 4: 1-5

- 3 ways of measuring ourselves
  - By other people and their expectations?
  - If so, the bar's set too low!!



## 2. GOOD-ENOUGH Plateau – 4: 1-5

- 3 ways of measuring ourselves
  - By other people and their expectations?
  - By ourselves and our conscience?
  - By Jesus Christ!



## 2. GOOD-ENOUGH Plateau – 4: 1-5

*“God is easy to please,  
but impossible to  
satisfy”*



## 3. PIPE-AND-SLIPPERS Plateau

– 4: 8-13



## 3. PIPE-AND-SLIPPERS Plateau

– 4: 8-13

- Christian discipleship is the way of the cross

*Jesus said,  
“If anyone would come after me,  
he must deny himself  
and take up his cross  
and follow me”*

*Mark 8: 34-35*

## 4. SPIN-NOT-SUBSTANCE Plateau

- 4: 18-20

*“The kingdom of God  
is not a matter of talk but of power”*

*Chapter 4, verse 20.*

- Love
- Service
- Evangelism
- Faith
- Endurance

#### 4. SPIN-NOT-SUBSTANCE Plateau

- 4: 18-20

***“The kingdom of God  
is not a matter of talk but of power”***

*Chapter 4, verse 20.*

***i.e. It's about faith that is effective***

***: fighting the good fight  
and not just talking it!***

#### 4. SPIN-NOT-SUBSTANCE Plateau

- 4: 18-20

- **Getting beyond the plateau**
  - **Through accountable relationships**
    - **Letting someone else support and pray for us**
    - **Allowing them to see what's going on in our life**
    - **Giving permission for them to speak into our life**

#### Moving Beyond the Plateau



- Keep learning
- Regain your focus on Christ
- Take on the tough challenges
- Find or renew a relationship of accountability